

B1 C1 an optical fixing section, downstream of the thermal developing section, which irradiates visible light for fixing the developed image.

B2 C1 12. (Amended): An image-recording apparatus comprising:
a casing section which encases light and heat sensitive recording material;
an optical recording section, downstream of the casing section, which exposes, using at least a short wavelength light source that has an intensity maximum in a wavelength range of 300 to 450 nm, the light and heat sensitive recording material, which has been fed from the casing section, for recording a latent image;
a thermal developing section, downstream of the optical recording section, which develops the latent image by heating; and
an optical fixing section, downstream of the thermal developing section, which irradiates visible light for fixing the developed image.

Kindly add the following new claims:

33 19. (New): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the optical fixing section irradiates light onto the light and heat sensitive recording material to fix the developed image thereon.

20. (New): The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the optical fixing section irradiates light onto the light and heat sensitive recording material to fix the developed image thereon.
